

Message Text

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11

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 EB-11 IGA-02 OMB-01 XMB-07 FRB-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5220

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

LIMITED OFFICIALSASE ISLAMABAD 5653

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PK

SUBJECT: ESTIMATE OF GOP IMPORTS IN FY 74/75

REF: ISLAMABAD 5255

1. DURING MAY 10 CONVERSATION WITH DR. KHALID IKRAM, CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SECTION, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, EMBOFF STATED THAT HE HAD HEARD GOP MAY HAVE INCREASED ITS ESTIMATE OF FY 75 IMPORT LEVEL ABOVE \$1.7 BILLION LEVEL PRESENTED AT MAY PARIS CONSORTIUM MEETING (SEE REFTEL).

2. IKRAM REPLIED THAT NOTHING HAD REALLY CHANGED, THAT IN PREPARATION FOR GOP PRESENTATION TO CONSORTIUM THEY RECEIVED ESTIMATES OF IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS GOP SOURCES. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE VARIATION IN ESTIMATES AND \$1.7 BILLION WAS ARBITRARILY SELECTED AS COMPROMISE BETWEEN HIGH AND LOW ESTIMATES. HE ADDED THAT HE KNEW OF NO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH CHANGE THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE.

3. COMMENT. IKRAM WAS A MEMBER OF GOP DELEGATION TO PARIS CONSORTIUM AND WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR GOP DOCUMENTATION PREPARATION FOR MEETIN-. HIS STATEMENTS
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REPORTED ABOVE DO NOT NECESSARILY CONTRADICT SEC GEN KAZI'S

STATEMENT REPORTED REFTTEL, THAT FY 75 IMPORT LEVELS HAVE
NOW INCREASED FROM \$1.7 BILLION BY \$200-300 MILLION AS GOP
ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS WILL OBVIOUSLY INFLUENCE IMPORT
LEVELS. END COMMENT.
BYROADE

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